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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/803,848	03/17/2004	Matthew Conover	SYMC1049	6420

34350 7590 01/12/2007
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EXAMINER

TRUONG, LOAN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2114

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/12/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/803,848

Applicant(s)

CONOVER ET AL.

Examiner

LOAN TRUONG

Art Unit

2114

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) 11-20 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 10 and 21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 2-9 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 3/17/2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office letter is in response to application #10/803/848 filed on March 17, 2004.
2. Examiner acknowledged the submission of replacement drawing sheets on September 23, 2004.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 2-9 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

4. Claims 11-20 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The examiner deem claims 11-20 as novel when reads as a whole for the limitations of upon determination that said stack frame is corrupted, replacing said second state of said stack frame with said copy of said first state of said stack frame.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Art Unit: 2114

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

5. Claim 21 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

In regards to claim 21, computer-program product claimed as computer listings per se, i.e., the descriptions or expressions of the programs are not physical “things.” They are neither computer components nor statutory processes, as they are not “acts” being performed. Such claimed computer programs do not define any structural and functional interrelationships between the computer program and other claimed elements of a computer, which permit the computer program’s functionality to be realized. Therefore, the specified claims do not fall within the technological arts and therefore, is non-statutory. See MPEP § 2106.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 1 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Gosling (US 5,668,999).

In regard to claim 1, Gosling disclosed a method comprising:

Stalling execution of a function (*bytecode verifier, fig. 4a, 300, col. 7 lines 20-30*), said function having an associated first state of a stack frame (*stack snapshot storage structure, col. 8 lines 17*);

Saving a copy of said first state of said stack frame (*a first pass is made through the bytecode program and is stored in the directory portion of the stack snapshot storage structure, col. 7 lines 31-40*);

Initiating execution of said function (*initiated a second pass through the byte code program, col. 7 lines 58-60*).

Stalling completion of said function (*bytecode verifier, fig. 4a, 300, col. 7 lines 20-30*), said function having an associated second state of said stack frame (*current state of the virtual stack, col. 8 lines 18*);

Comparing said second state of said stack frame to said copy of said first state of said stack frame (*compares current virtual stack with stored snapshot, fig. 4b, 438, col. 8 lines 15-18*); and

Determining whether said stack frame is corrupted based on said comparing (*if the comparison shows that the current state and the snapshot do not match, then an error message or signal is generated, fig. 4b, 440, col. 8 lines 19-22*).

In regard to claim 10, Gosling disclosed the method of claim 1, further comprising:

Upon a determination that said stack frame is not corrupted, initiating completion of said function (*if the current virtual stack and the stored stack snapshot for the current instruction match then the verifier will continue the verification process, fig. 4b, 438, col. 8 lines 30-33*).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See PTO 892.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Loan Truong whose telephone number is (571) 272-2572. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 8am-4pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Scott Baderman can be reached on (571) 272-3644. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Loan Truong
Patent Examiner
AU 2114


SCOTT BADERMAN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER